

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURR of North Carolina). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "BILLY" MALRY

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, those of us who have the great privilege of serving in this body because of our election from our constituencies come to this floor every day and walk the halls of this Capitol which we revere. Every day we see the faces of and know the names of some who serve this institution so well. They are individuals who care as deeply for their country as those of us who are elected to serve in this body, and their quiet, unassuming competence adds to the quality of service that we give to the American public.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to note sadly, as others have done, the passing of a friend, the passing of a servant of this House, a servant of the people, as we are all servants of the people. His name was Charles "Bill" Malry. Some of my colleagues may not know the name, but they saw him in the Speaker's Lobby. They would see him in the cloakroom. He facilitated the operations of this House.

He was born May 6, 1936, in Greer, South Carolina, and was raised in Washington. He served in the Army until 1962. After his return from the Army he worked at the O Street Market here in Washington, D.C.

In 1966, 32 years ago, he started working here in the Capitol, where he worked until his death the very night the President delivered his State of the Union message. Billy was in the cloakroom, on duty, assisting Members, facilitating our work. God took him home.

Billy enjoyed entertaining people as well as music and photography. He was a real person, a warm person, a caring person. He cared about each one of us. Those of us who had the privilege of being his friend will never forget him.

He was the father of five children: Renee, Charles, Charles Jr., Michael and Tonya. His mother, Frances Malry Allen, nine grandchildren, as well as four brothers and seven sisters are left behind.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of going to the church here in Washington, and I talked to his mother, and I congratulated her for raising a son who had done so much for his country and so much for each of us. Billy's smile and warmth and service will be missed. Bill Malry served his country well.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the President of the United States:

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 1, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1105, attached is the Budget of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2000.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, FISCAL YEAR 2000—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-3)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

The 2000 Budget, which I am submitting to you with this message, promises the third balanced budget in my Administration. With this budget, our fiscal house is in order, our spirit strong, and our resources prepare us to meet the challenges of the next century.

This budget marks a new era of opportunity. When I took office six years ago, I was determined to reverse decades of fiscal decline—a time when deficits grew without restraint, the economy suffered, and our national purpose seemed to be undermined. For too many years, the deficit loomed over us, a powerful reminder of the Government's inability to the people's business.

Today, Americans deserve to be proud and confident in their ability to meet the next set of challenges. In the past six years, we have risen to our responsibilities and, as a result, have built an economy of unprecedented prosperity. We have done this the right way—by balancing fiscal discipline and investing in our Nation.

This budget continues on the same path. It invests in education and training so Americans can make the most of this economy's opportunities. It invests in health and the environment to improve our quality of life. It invests in our security at home and abroad, strengthens law enforcement and provides our Armed Forces with the resources they need to safeguard our national interests in the next century.

This year's budget surplus is one in many decades of surpluses to come—if we maintain our resolve and stay on the path that brought us this success in the first place. The budget forecasts that the economy will remain strong,

producing surpluses until well into the next century.

The 21st Century promises to be a time of promise for the American people. Our challenge as we move forward is to maintain our strategy of balancing fiscal discipline with the need to make wise decisions about our investment priorities. This strategy has resulted in unprecedented prosperity; it is now providing us with resources of a size and scope that just a few years ago simply didn't seem possible. Now that these resources are in our reach, it is both our challenge and responsibility to make sure we use them wisely.

First and foremost, in the last year of this century, the task awaiting us is to save Social Security. The conditions are right. We have reserved the surplus, our economy is prosperous, and last year's national dialogue has advanced the goal of forging consensus. Acting now makes the work ahead easier, with changes that will be far simpler than if we wait until the problem is closer at hand.

In my State of the Union address, I proposed a framework for saving Social Security that will use 62 percent of the surplus for the next 15 years to strengthen the Trust Fund until the middle of the next century. Part of the surplus dedicated to Social Security would be invested in private securities, further strengthening the Trust Fund by drawing on the long-term strength of the stock market, and reducing the debt to ensure strong fiscal health. This proposal will keep Social Security safe and strong until 2055. In order to reach my goal of protecting and preserving the Trust Fund until 2075, I urge the Congress to join me on a bipartisan basis to make choices that, while difficult, can be achieved, and include doing more to reduce poverty among single elderly women.

I am committed to upholding the pledge I made last year—that we must not drain the surplus until we save Social Security. It is time to fix Social Security now. And once we have done so, we should turn our efforts to other pressing national priorities. We must fulfill our obligation to save and improve Medicare—my framework would reserve 15 percent of the projected surplus for Medicare, ensuring that the Medicare Trust Fund is secure for 20 years. It would establish Universal Savings Accounts, using just over one-tenth of the surplus to encourage all Americans to save and invest so they will have additional income in retirement. I propose that we reserve the final portion of the projected surplus, 11 percent, to provide resources for other pressing national needs that will arise in the future, including the need to maintain the military readiness of the Nation's Armed Forces, education, and other critical domestic priorities.

CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE NEW ERA OF SURPLUS

Six years ago, when my Administration took office, we were determined to